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Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Rights of the Child

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/59/L.29/Rev.1

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

Addendum

I. Introduction

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 9 of draft resolution A/C.3/59/L.29/Rev.1, the General Assembly would welcome the efforts of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to reform its working methods so as to consider the reports of States parties in a timely manner, including by the proposal to work in two chambers, as an exceptional and temporary measure, for a period of two years, in order to clear the backlog of reports, taking due account of equitable geographical distribution, and would urge the Committee to continue to review its working methods in order to enhance its efficiency and to assess progress after two years, also taking into account the wider context of treaty body reform.

2. The related decision of the Committee on the Rights of the Child is contained in its report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.[1] Under the terms of its decision, the Committee will consider the reports of States parties in two parallel chambers, each consisting of nine members of the Committee, taking due account of equitable geographical distribution, thereby increasing the number of States parties' reports to be examined from 27 to 48 a year.

3. At its thirty-seventh session, in September 2004, the Committee reaffirmed its decision adopted at its thirty-fourth session and agreed that it should be

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implemented from the pre-sessional working group for its forty-first session which would take place from 3 to 7 October 2005. During 2006, the Committee would meet for two weeks of each three-week session in parallel working groups and in parallel working groups for the duration of each of its three one-week pre-sessional working groups.

4. In paragraph 51 (d) of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would decide to invite the Chairman of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to present an oral report on the work of the Committee to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session.

II. Relationship of the proposed request to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

5. The activities to be carried out would relate to programme 19, Human rights, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and section 24, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

III. Modification of the approved programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

6. In order to reflect the provisions of draft resolution A/C.3/59/L.31, the narrative of subprogramme 2, Supporting human rights bodies and organs, of section 24, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, paragraph 24.43 (viii), Committee on the Rights of the Child, would be modified to read as follows:

"(a) Substantive servicing of meetings: pre-sessional working group (70)"

IV. Estimates of resource requirements

7. The implementation of the request contained in operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution would entail requirements for the biennium 2004-2005 as detailed in the table below. These requirements would need to be met through additional appropriations by the General Assembly.

Additional regular budget requirements

(United States dollars)

	2005	*2006*
Section 2. General Assembly affairs and conference services		
Conference services	484 900	3 878 700
Section 29E. Administration, Geneva		
Sound Technician	2 400	21 600
Section 24. Human rights		
General temporary assistance	214 900	214 900
Grand total	**702 200**	**4 115 200**

8. The total full cost of the additional regular budget requirements for 2006 is $4,115,200, as shown in the table above. It is anticipated that these requirements will be included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007.

9. The implementation of the request contained in operative paragraph 51 (d) of the draft resolution would entail a requirement of $3,000. It is envisaged that this requirement would be funded from extrabudgetary resources.

V. Contingency fund

10. It will be recalled that under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, a contingency fund is established each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from the legislative mandates not provided for in the approved programme budget. Under that procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned can be implemented only through the redeployment of resources available from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities would have to be deferred to a later biennium.

11. It is not possible at this stage to identify activities under section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services, section 24, Human rights, and section 29E, Administration, Geneva, that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the current biennium in order to meet the additional requirements of $702,200.

VI. Summary

12. **Adoption of General Assembly draft resolution A/C.3/59/L.29/Rev.1 would give rise to additional requirements of $702,200 pertaining to the terms of paragraph 9 of the draft resolution, in addition to the resources initially appropriated for the biennium 2004-2005. This additional provision would represent a charge against the contingency fund.**

13. **The requirements of $4,115,200 for 2006 will be included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007.**

14. **In summary, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/59/L.29/Rev.1, additional requirements totalling $1,622,200 (gross) would arise under the programme budget for 2004-2005 as described below:**

(a) Statement of programme budget implications with respect to children and armed conflict (A/C.3/59/L.82)	**$920 000[a]**
(b) The present statement of programme budget implication with respect to the Committee on the Rights of the Child	**$702 200**
Total	**$1 622 200**

[a] Details of this already provided in A/C.3/59/L.82.

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/59/41), para. 26; see also chap. I.C.